

**CITY OF CATHEDRAL CITY
MINUTES OF
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
MAY 19, 2005**

I. TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION ROLL CALL on May 19, 2005

Members Present: James Navarro (Chairman), William Baker, Rosalina Nava

Members Absent: Harold Blumberg (Vice Chair), Richard Mills

City Staff Present: Bob Mohler, Engineering Dept. (Staff Liaison to Commission)

Consultant Present: Hui Lai, Traffic Safety Engineers, Inc. (City's Traffic Engineer)

The meeting convened at **6:30 PM** in the Cathedral City Study Session Room.

II. APPROVAL OF MEMBER(S) ABSENT

It was **MOVED** by Chairman Navarro and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Baker to approve the absences of Commissioners Blumberg and Mills. This motion **PASSED** unanimously.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING

It was **MOVED** by Commissioner Baker and **SECONDED** by Chairman Navarro to approve the Minutes of March 17, 2005. This motion **PASSED** unanimously.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS (not related to the agenda items): NONE

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. DOWNTOWN TRAFFIC SIGNALS: Presentation by consultant Hui Lai regarding his Traffic Study Report recommending changes to five existing downtown traffic signals to improve traffic flows on E. Palm Canyon Dr. by 100% (from Cathedral Canyon to Date Palm Dr). (Primarily elimination of left-turn arrows & installation of 5 new traffic controllers). It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** to approve the recommendations of consultant Hui Lai; recommending also that City Council also adopt these Traffic Study recommendations. This motion **PASSED** unanimously.

2. PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS: The City Staff and the Commission discussed methods of improving the public input and City response to transportation issues. It was suggested that the City website be used more effectively and phone calls be logged to better track traffic issues and their resolution.

V. NEW BUSINESS (Continued):

3. TRAFFIC CALMING: Staff explained that requests are often made for Speed Bumps on residential neighborhood streets and that citizens are told to fill out the Traffic Calming application provided on the City website and to bring the request to the Commission. Residents usually fail to pursue that established process further.
4. 4-WAY STOP REQUEST: The Commission asked staff to conduct a warrants study to determine if a 4-Way Stop is warranted at Hillcrest & "D" Street in the cove area.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Staff & consultant Hui Lai updated the Commission on the status of the second E. Palm Canyon Drive Traffic Study ("B"), approved by City Council on 2/23/05. This study is still underway for long-term solutions to E. Palm Canyon Drive, knowing that CVAG 2020 Traffic projections indicate more traffic (53,000 cars/day) than can be handled on the existing 4-lane roadway. To avoid future grid-lock, Mr. Lai is reviewing alternative route options for the Commission & City Council to review. (Target 9/1/05 study completion).

VII. COMMISSION COMMENTS: The Commission felt that they were not being used to their full intended role capabilities and that traffic decisions (especially involving new developments) should be brought to them for approval. They cited the decision to close off the south leg of the Date Palm intersection as an example, since one of the Commissioners lives in the Cove community and said he and many other Cove drivers use that route to travel to and from the east valley communities. The Commission requested that a Downtown Redevelopment Agency staff member or the City Engineer attend the next Commission meeting to brief them on the status of the new Sheraton Hotel as well as other downtown development projects.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further items being brought up for discussion, it was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** that the Transportation Commission Meeting be adjourned to the (3rd. Thursday in two months). The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM. Update: The next meeting was moved up a week to the 2nd Thursday in July at the request of staff, and after polling all Commissioners, it was unanimously approved to hold the next Commission Meeting on **Thursday, July 14, 2005 at 6:30 PM** in the Cathedral City Study Session Room.

